



**United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia**

**Channing Phillips
Acting United States Attorney**

PRESS RELEASE

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District Man Pleads Guilty to Shooting Two Victims at Columbia Heights Metro

– Assault occurred in afternoon on a crowded street –

WASHINGTON - A 19-year-old District man, Devyn Black, pleaded guilty Tuesday, September 29, 2009, in connection with the June 18, 2009, shooting of two victims outside the Metro station in Columbia Heights, Acting U.S. Attorney Channing Phillips announced. Following pretrial hearings in the case, which was set for trial, Black, also known by the nickname "Hamburger," pleaded guilty to Aggravated Assault while Armed and Possession of a Firearm During a Crime of Violence. The pleas took place in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia before the Honorable Robert I. Richter.

According to a factual proffer provided at the plea hearing, on June 18, 2009, just before 3:00 p.m., one of the victims was returning from an orientation for a summer jobs program at the D.C. Convention Center aboard a Metro train. The defendant was on the same train and saw the victim, with whom he had a fight about a month earlier. Armed with a semiautomatic pistol, the defendant and a group of his friends followed the victim, who ran from the train up to the sidewalk outside the Columbia Heights Metro station. In broad daylight, just outside the escalator, the defendant confronted the victim and shot him twice. The bullets struck the victim in both legs – and also struck an uninvolved bystander, who was waiting nearby for the bus, in the leg. The victim fled and then collapsed nearby in a pool of blood, as terrified bystanders fled the shooting scene. Both victims were taken to the hospital and admitted for their injuries.

In announcing the plea, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Detective Antoine Weston, the lead detective on the case, along with Detectives Shelley Anderson, Investigators Osbaldo Luna, Joseph McKenna, and Amber Chesla, Officers Ivan Quiles, Christopher Dorsey, Virgilio Baez, Eli Ellingsworth, and Jason Bagshaw, and Crime Scene Officer James Fields, who investigated the case. Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips also expressed his appreciation to Paralegals Kalisha Johnson-Clark and Wanda Trice, who prepared the case for trial, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jonathan Hooks and Emily Miller, who investigated, indicted and prepared the case for trial.

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